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In this talk, I will review the construction of exponential logarithmic power series fields as presented in my monograph (Fields Institute Monograph Series, Vol 12, AMS Publications, 2000). This should provide a background and framework for attacking the following problem: does Conway's field of surreal numbers carry a natural structure of exponential-logarithmic power series field? This question is currently considered in collaboration with Matusinski and van der Hoeven. (Received September 22, 2009)